

Bennington Opera House Tuesday, October 3

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Three-Act Comedy Drama Emphatic Hit "THE TURNING POINT" OFF NOW---A PLAY---FOR YOU



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NEW COMEDY DRAMA

"The Turning Point" at the Bennington Opera House Tuesday Evening

"The Turning Point" is the title of one of the newest comedy drama successes, and we are to have it Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the local opera house. The fact that Preston Gibson is one of our best latter day writers and also that his play as above ran for weeks in New York, would augur an enjoy-

able evening for those of our local amusement seekers who delight in the better order of plays. "The Turning Point" is a virile play, dealing with American people, scenes and incidents that we all should recognize. It is delightful in its love interest, and brimming with bright and effective comedy. The whole being blended in to what has been pronounced Mr. Gibson's best effort. The company that will be seen is said to be in every way most adequate for the work in hand.



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ANDERSONVILLE PRISON

Some Memories of This Horrible Slaughter Pen
(Continued from 2nd page)

are hauled out daily by the wagon-load and buried without coffins, their hands in many instances being first mutilated with an axe in the removal of any finger rings they may have. The sanitary condition of the prisoners is as wretched as can be, the principal causes of mortality being scurvy and chronic diarrhoea, the percentage of the former being disproportionately large among those brought from Belle Island. Nothing seems to have been done, and but little if any effort made to arrest it by procuring proper food.

"Have rations have to be issued to a very large proportion who are entirely unprovided with proper utensils and furnished so limited a supply of fuel they are compelled to dig with their hands in the filthy marsh before mentioned for roots, etc. No soap or clothing has ever been issued."

Col. Chandler closes his report with the following recommendation as to Gen. Winder, the inhuman brute who had charge of all prison pens of the South.

"My duty requires me respectfully to recommend a change in the officer in command of the post, Brig. Gen. J. H. Winder, and the substitution in his place and some one who unites both energy and good judgment with some feeling of humanity and consideration for the welfare and comfort (so far as is consistent with their safe keeping) of the vast number of unfortunates placed under his control, some one who at least will not advocate deliberately and in cold blood the perpetration of leaving them in their present condition until their number has been sufficiently reduced by death to make the present arrangement suffice for their accommodation; who will not consider it a matter of self-interest to hoard and hoarding that he has never been inside of the stockade, a place the horrors of which it is difficult to describe, and which is a disgrace to civilization; the condition of which he might, by the exercise of a little energy and judgment, even with the limited means at his command, have considerably improved."

Chandler Retracts Nothing
When called in the Wirz trial Col. Chandler testified as follows:
"I have no retraction to make in regard to the condition of the prison at Andersonville, as represented in my report."

Gen. Winder seemed indifferent to the welfare of the prisoners, indisposed to do anything or to do as much as I thought he ought to do to alleviate their sufferings. I remonstrated with him as well as I could, and he used that language, which I reported to the Department. When I spoke of the great mortality existing among the prisoners, and pointed out to him, that the sickly season was coming on, and that it must necessarily increase unless something was done for their relief—the swamp, for instance, drained, proper food furnished them and in better quantity, and other sanitary suggestions which I made to him—he replied to me that he thought it was better to let half of the men die than to take care of the men."

R. W. Chilton, assistant adjutant and Inspector General, submitted the report of Col. Chandler to the Secretary of War, and commented on it as follows:

"The condition of the prison at Andersonville is a reproach to us as a nation."
J. A. Campbell, assistant secretary of war, into whose hands these papers came first, reported to the secretary of war. "These reports show a condition of things at Andersonville which calls very loudly for interposition of the department in order that a change may be made."
No change for the better was ever made.

Dr. Joseph Jones, C. S. A., Reports
Joseph Jones, Surgeon, C. S. A., was mentioned by Jefferson Davis in some articles that he wrote for Belvoir Magazine January and February, 1869, as a man of "great learning and undoubted probity." Davis further stated in these articles that Dr. Jones' report was made for the eyes of the surgeon-general alone, and intimates that it was criminal to use this report against the rebel management of Andersonville for that reason.

Dr. Jones, May 18, 1864, reported to Surgeon-general S. P. Moore, C. S. A., that it will be found in Records of the War of the Rebellion, Vol. 7, Series 2, page 1012. A portion of that report is as follows:
"Immediately after the brief report upon hospital gangrene, forwarded to the surgeon general, I repaired to Camp Sumter, Andersonville, Ga., and instituted a series of investigations upon the diseases of the Federal prisoners."
"The field was of great extent and extraordinary interest. There was about 5000 seriously sick in the hospital and stockade, and the deaths ranged from 90 to 130 each day."
"Since the establishment of this prison on the 24th of February, 1864, to the present time over 10,000 Federal prisoners have died; that is nearly one-third of the entire number have perished in less than seven months."
"I instituted careful investigation into the condition of the sick and well, and performed numerous post-mortem examinations. The medical topography of Andersonville and the surrounding country was examined, and the waters of the streams, springs and wells around and within the stockade and hospital carefully analyzed."
"Diarrhoea, dysentery, scurvy and hospital gangrene were the diseases which have been the main cause of this extraordinary mortality. The origin and character of the hospital gangrene which prevailed to so remarkable a degree and with such fatal effects amongst the Federal prisoners engaged my most serious and earnest consideration. More than 30,000 men, crowded upon 27 acres of land, with little or no shelter from the intense heat of a Southern summer, or from the rain and from the dew of night, with coarse cornbread from which the husk had not been removed, with but scant supplies of fresh meat and vegetables, with little or no attention to hygiene, with festering masses of filth at the very doors of their rude dens and tents, with the greater portion of the banks of the stream flowing through the stockade a filthy mass of human excrements alive with working maggots, generated by their own filthy exhalations and excretions, an atmosphere that so deteriorated and contaminated their solids and fluids that the slightest scratch and even the bites of small insects were in some cases followed by such rapid and extensive gangrene as to de-

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troly extremities and even life itself." Dr. Amos Thornburg, the surgeon at Andersonville, made his report to Dr. Joseph Jones, and it may be found in the Rebellion Records, Series 3, Vol. 8, page 625. Part of that report is as follows:

Dr. Thornburg, C. S. A., Reports
"We will close this paper lest we weary you with dry and uninteresting matter, by giving a short description of our so-called hospital. We have from 1600 to 2000 patients, besides nurses and attendants, crowded together in small and almost useless tents erected on less than three acres of ground. The hospital is erected on a narrow tongue of land between two small creeks, on each side of which are swamps 40 and 50 yards in width. On the west end of these creeks from the hospital are the camps and stockade. Now all the debris from over 30,000 human beings has to pass along the small brook on the north of the hospital grounds and within a stone's throw of patients' tents."

"A large portion of this filth is deposited on the marsh, and produces a most sickening stench. Our patients are carried from the stockade and placed in the tents by the attendants. We put in the common small A tent four patients, in the large wall tent eight, and in the common fly from six to eight. About one-third have bunks or scaffolds, and the remainder have to lie on the ground without straw or anything else to protect them from its dampness."

"Those who are not fortunate enough to have a blanket are compelled to lie on the damp ground with no covering but their clothing which in many instances they have worn for six months without washing."
"The diet is of the coarsest kind, consisting of boiled beef, rice, molasses and coarse cornbread, baked without sifting and from one or two ordinary sized biscuits. To this we sometimes have a small allowance of vegetables, such as peas, potatoes and collards. These vegetables are generally issued raw, and the patients are compelled to hire their campfires to cook them in some sort of style and pay them out of their scanty allowance."

"With these facts before you, you will not wonder at the fearful mortality presented in our report and in the tabular statement from our ward, presented above."
"Feeling we have done our whole duty, both in the eyes of God and man, we leave the matter to rest with those whose duty it was to furnish supplies and build up a hospital that might have reflected credit on the government and saved the lives of thousands of our race."

What fiercer denunciation of Andersonville has ever appeared in print than the reports of the dozen or more Confederate surgeons who condemned the C. S. A. government for permitting the tragedy of that worse than black hole of Calcutta—Isabel Worrell Hall, in the National Tribune.

UP-TO-DATE POTATO CROP
F. P. Burditt Wins the First Prize for a Big Yield of Spuds.
St. Albans, Sept. 27.—E. S. Brigham of St. Albans and O. L. Martin of Plainfield, state commissioner of agriculture, acted as judges in awarding prizes amounting to \$40 in gold offered by the White River railroad for the best field of potatoes in that section. The \$40 is divided into three prizes, the first being \$20 in gold, the second \$10 and the third \$10. F. P. Burditt of a field of potatoes, notwithstanding the poor year, yielded 425 bushels to the acre.

This is the second year that the railroad has pursued this policy. Last year there was a little interest among the farmers but a marked increase in attention to the crops has been paid this year leading to better methods and a larger acreage planted. The field which won the first prize has been in care of Mr. Burditt's son who attended the Vermont state agricultural college at Burlington. The field has been tilled and the crop grown under up to date methods.

NOT SAFE FOR CANE
Youth Using Rifle for Purpose and Was Shot to Death.

Suncook, N. H., Sept. 26.—Alphonse Ploude, aged 17, accidentally killed himself yesterday afternoon, while on his way home from an afternoon spent in the woods. Ploude was in the company of a friend named Mennered when the fatal accident occurred. The two young men were walking along and Ploude was using his rifle for a cane, but when he was crossing a small culvert near the Simpson and Miller barns, a stick got caught between the trigger and the guard, and when Ploude pulled the gun in the hope of freeing it, the rifle was discharged. The bullet entered the young man's body and came out back of the ear, severing several arteries during its course and causing instant death.

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BENNINGTON BRIEFS

News as the Town and Village Told Briefly for Our Readers.

Mrs. Charles Hodge is visiting in North Adams.

Miss Daisy B. Wood is employed as trimmer at the McLeod millinery parlors.

Branch No. 5 of St. Mary's Guild will meet with Mrs. C. J. Kinsley, 240 School street, Thursday afternoon from 2 to 5.

Miss Mary Root is in New York for a few weeks. She will return to Bennington before leaving for California, where she will spend the winter with Mr. and Mrs. Root.

Mrs. John S. Holden has gone by automobile to Hardwick accompanied by Miss Spaulding of Hartford, Conn., Mrs. Edward B. Hull and Mrs. Geo. Bickford at whose home they are to visit a few days.

The Cooper Mfg. company this morning began a new schedule of time, employees working only ten hours a day five days a week. This causes the factory to be closed all day Saturday, whereas before work was not resumed a full day. The employees go in at 7 o'clock in the morning and quit on Friday at 4:45.

H. B. North of the Bennington Paper Box company, will shortly begin the erection of a handsome two-story house on the lot that he recently bought of H. S. Bingham. Excavating has already begun for the water and sewer connections and work on the cellar will follow. The dwelling will be 30 by 30 feet on the foundation. The work will be done by J. T. Remington.

Hoosick grange No. 1127 have accepted the invitation of the local grange for "Neighbors' Night" and will provide part of the lecturer's program. Hoosick, Pownall and Stamford granges have been invited to a "Neighbors' night" meeting on Wednesday evening of this week by Bennington grange. Regular business meeting at 7:30. Each family in local grange please bring a cake.

Preston Gibson said to a friend some five years ago, that he intended to write a good American play. This was when his books had reached the goal of all authors—"best sellers." His statement was, of course, taken for what it was worth at the time—but he redeemed his promise—or threat, whichever it may be called—when he gave our stage "The Turning Point," which will be seen at the Bennington opera house, Tuesday, Oct. 3.

WINTER TIME TABLE

Shortens Running Time From Bennington to New York

The fall and winter time table of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, in effect October 1, 1911, provides improved service for Williamstown and North Adams, Mass., and Bennington. The running time of the train to New York which under the old schedule left at 12:40 a. m., has been quickened 20 minutes. Under the new schedule this train leaves Williamstown at 12:25 p. m., and arrives in New York at 5:35 p. m., instead of 6:10 as heretofore.

This improved service will be appreciated by Bennington patrons, as it gives a direct connection at Williamstown and means a reduction of 35 minutes in the running time from Bennington to New York.

REAL HOME WRECKERS

They Are Women According to Recent Divorce Statistics.
Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 28.—Woman, not man, is the real home wrecker, according to statistics that are being compiled from the divorce court records here. So far as the statistics show 80 per cent of the cases before Circuit Court are brought by wives, while virtually the same percentage of the suits are brought on so-called trivial charges, such as incompatibility of temper, quarrels and other allegations which do not charge infractions of the moral or civil laws.

Previous statistics showed that in Jackson county, in which Kansas City is, there were three suits for divorce filed for every five marriage licenses issued, and this startling high percentage prompted an investigation into divorce statistics. It was found that while 80 per cent of the plaintiffs were women and 80 per cent of their suits were brought on trivial charges, less than 10 per cent of the suits filed by the men were based on the trivial charges, while 90 per cent were based on the more serious charges of desertion, immoral conduct or neglect of the home through a preference for working.

Men, too, it was shown by the suits, were long-suffering, the average duration of married life of those in which the husband was the plaintiff being twice the duration of the marriage in suits in which the wife was plaintiff.

Women, too, the statistics show, have apparently less regard for the future of their children. When men are plaintiffs in divorce suits, the average is only one child to a family, 300 suits taken consecutively from the docket in which women are plaintiffs, show nearly 1,000 or an average of a little more than three to the family.

Card of Thanks
We wish to thank friends for their expressions of sympathy at the death of our darling, also for the beautiful floral offerings, especially the inspectors of Cooper's mill.

Mrs. Frances Lincoln.
Mrs. Arthur Allen.

James C. Dahlman, "Cowboy" Mayor of Omaha, "Throws the Lariat"

Mayor James C. Dahlman is of an interesting and impressive personality. Starting his career as a cowboy, he is at present Mayor of Omaha, and has the following record to his credit: Sheriff of Daves Co., Neb., three terms; Mayor of Chadron, two terms; Democratic National Committeeman, eight years; Mayor of Omaha, six years, and in 1910 candidate for governor of Nebraska. Writing to Foley & Co., Chicago, he says: "I have taken Foley Kidney Pills and they have given me a great deal of relief so I cheerfully recommend them."

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